

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas hydrocephalus is a serious neurological condition, characterized by the abnormal buildup of cerebrospinal fluids in the ventricles of the brain;

Whereas there is no known cure for hydrocephalus;

Whereas hydrocephalus affects an estimated 1,000,000 Americans;

Whereas 1 or 2 in every 1,000 babies are born with hydrocephalus;

Whereas over 375,000 older Americans have hydrocephalus, which often goes undetected or is misdiagnosed as dementia, Alzheimer's disease, or Parkinson's disease;

Whereas with appropriate diagnosis and treatment, people with hydrocephalus are able to live full and productive lives;

Whereas the standard treatment for hydrocephalus was developed in 1952, and carries multiple risks including shunt failure, infection, and overdrainage;

Whereas there are fewer than 10 centers in the United States specializing in the treatment of adults with normal pressure hydrocephalus;

Whereas each year, the people of the United States spend in excess of \$1,000,000,000 to treat hydrocephalus;

Whereas a September 2005 conference sponsored by 7 institutes of the National Institutes of Health—“Hydrocephalus: Myths, New Facts, Clear Directions”—resulted in efforts to initiate new, collaborative research and treatment efforts; and

Whereas the Hydrocephalus Association is one of the Nation’s oldest and largest patient and research advocacy and support networks for individuals suffering from hydrocephalus: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*
2 *concurring), That—*

3 (1) Congress commends the Director of the Na-
4 tional Institutes of Health for working with leading
5 scientists and researchers to organize the first-ever
6 National Institutes of Health conference on hydro-
7 cephalus; and

8 (2) it is the sense of Congress that—

9 (A) the Director of the National Institutes
10 of Health should continue the current collabora-
11 tion with respect to hydrocephalus among the
12 National Eye Institute, the National Human
13 Genome Research Institute, the National Insti-
14 tute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering,
15 the National Institute of Child Health and
16 Human Development, the National Institute of
17 Neurological Disorders and Stroke, the Na-

1 tional Institute on Aging, and the Office of
2 Rare Diseases;

3 (B) further research into the epidemiology,
4 pathophysiology, disease burden, and improved
5 treatment of hydrocephalus should be conducted
6 or supported; and

7 (C) public awareness and professional edu-
8 cation regarding hydrocephalus should increase
9 through partnerships between the Federal Gov-
10 ernment and patient advocacy organizations.

 Passed the Senate January 22 (legislative day, Jan-
uary 3), 2008.

 Attest:

Secretary.

110TH CONGRESS
2ND SESSION

S. CON. RES. 63

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Expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the need for additional research into the chronic neurological condition hydrocephalus, and for other purposes.